JS 44 (Rev. 06/17)

RECEIPT#

AMOUNT

CIVIL COVER SHEET

ion contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as loved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.) The JS 44 civil cover sheet and th provided by local rules of court. purpose of initiating the civil dock

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I. (a) PLAINTIFFS DEFENDANTS Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits/LLC					
DiSabatino,	Gregory /		Southern Glazer's Win	/ - /	
,	/		Pennsylvania VI.C.	-/	
(b) County of Residence	of First Listed Plaintiff Delaware	County of Residence	e of First Listed Defendant	Miami-Dade	
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,-		NOTE: IN LAND C	ONDEMNATION CASES, USE TI T OF LAND INVOLVED.		
		THE TRAC	T OF LAND INVOLVED.		
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name,	Address, and Telephone Number)	Attorneys (If Known)			
		Transition (1) Islamin			
	orney at Law; 6701 Germantown	}			
Ave, Ste 200; Philae	delphia, PA 19119; 2 07-93 0-4425	·			
II. DAGIG OF HIDIOD		THE CHARLES OF E	DINCIPAL DADRIEG		
II. BASIS OF JURISD	CTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	III. CITIZENSHIP OF F	RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plain. and One Box for Defendant)	
☐ 1 U.S. Government	□x3 Federal Question		TF DEF	PTF DEF	
Plaintiff	(U.S. Government Not a Party)	Citizen of This State	1 1 Incorporated or Pri		
- 1	/	i	of Business In T	his State	
☐ 2 U.S. Government	☐ 4 Diversity	Citizen of Another State	2 Incorporated and P	Principal Place 🛮 5 🗘 5	
Defendant	(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		of Business In A	Another State	
ĺ	/	Citizen or Subject of a	3 G 3 Foreign Nation	06 06	
		Foreign Country			
IV. NATURE OF SUI	P(Place an "X" in One Box Only)		Click here for: Nature o	of Suit Code Descriptions.	
CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES	
☐ 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJUR	÷ i	☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	☐ 375 False Claims Act	
☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 365 Personal Injury - ☐ 315 Airplane Product ☐ Product Liability	,	28 USC 157	376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a))	
☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument	Liability 367 Health Care/	B 670 Olice	20 050 151	☐ 400 State Reapportionment	
☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	☐ 320 Assault, Libel & Pharmaceutical	1	PROPERTY RIGHTS	☐ 410 Antitrust	
& Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act	Slander Personal Injury ☐ 330 Federal Employers' Product Liability	· ·	☐ 820 Copyrights ☐ 830 Patent	☐ 430 Banks and Banking ☐ 450 Commerce	
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability ☐ 368 Asbestos Persona	1	☐ 835 Patent - Abbreviated	☐ 460 Deportation	
Student Loans	☐ 340 Marine Injury Product ☐ 345 Marine Product Liability		New Drug Application 840 Trademark	☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations	
(Excludes Veterans) ☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment	☐ 345 Marine Product Liability Liability PERSONAL PROPE	RTY LABOR	SOCIAL SECURITY	☐ 480 Consumer Credit	
of Veteran's Benefits	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 370 Other Fraud	710 Fair Labor Standards	□ 861 HIA (1395ff)	☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV	
160 Stockholders' Suits	☐ 355 Motor Vehicle ☐ 371 Truth in Lending Product Liability ☐ 380 Other Personal	1	☐ 862 Black Lung (923) ☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange	
☐ 190 Other Contract ☐ 195 Contract Product Liability	Product Liability ☐ 380 Other Personal ☐ 360 Other Personal ☐ Property Damage	720 Labor/Management Relations	☐ 864 SSID Title XVI	Other Statutory Actions	
☐ 196 Franchise	Injury 385 Property Damage	740 Railway Labor Act	☐ 865 RSI (405(g))	☐ 89¶ Agricultural Acts	
	☐ 362 Personal Injury - Product Liability Medical Malpractice	751 Family and Medical Leave Act		893 Environmental Matters 295 Freedom of Information	
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS PRISONER PETITIO		FEDERAL TAX SUITS	Act	
☐ 210 Land Condemnation	440 Other Civil Rights Habeas Corpus:	☐ 791 Employee Retirement	☐ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff)	896 Arbitration	
☐ 220 Foreclosure ☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejegtment	463 Alien Detainee 510 Motions to Vacat	Income Security Act	or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party	☐ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of	
240 Torts to Land	☐ 443 Housing/ Sentence		26 USC 7609	Agency Decision	
☐ 245 Tort Product Liability (Accommodations 530 General			☐ 950 Constitutionality of	
☐ 290 All Other Real Property	45 Amer w/Disabilities - 535 Death Penalty Employment Other:	IMMIGRATION ☐ 462 Naturalization Application	1	State Statutes	
7	446 Amer, w/Disabilities - 540 Mandamus & Otl				
	Other 550 Civil Rights	Actions			
	☐ 448 Education ☐ 555 Prison Condition ☐ 560 Civil Detainee -				
- 1	Conditions of				
	Confinement		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" i	n One Box Only)				
		☐ 4 Reinstated or ☐ 5 Transf			
Proceeding Sta	te Court Appellate Court	Reopened Anothe	er District Litigation Transfer	- Litigation - Direct File	
\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you a	1 02	<u> </u>		
Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA)					
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	Brief description of cause: pretextual te	rmination			
VII. REQUESTED IN	☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTIO	N DEMAND \$	•	if demanded in complaint:	
COMPLAINT: UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P. JURY DEMAND: ☐XY os ☐ No					
VIII. RELATED CASE(S)					
IF ANY	(See instructions): JUDGE	/	DOCKET NUMBER	DYT - 3 2017	
DATE		TORNEY OF RECORD			
10/03/2017	STATIONE OF ALL) Tan			
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APPLYING IFP

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA - DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to appropriate calendar. 🐉 🤭 Gregory DiSabatino 4331 Concord Road, Aston, PA 19014 Address of Plaintiff: Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits LLC, 1600 NW 163rd St., Miami, FL 33169; Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits of Address of Defendant: Pennsylvania LLC, 460 American Ave., PO Box 60384, King of Prussia, PA 19406-1405 Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: (Use Reverse Side For Additional Space) King of Prussia, PA; Pottstown, PA Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation owning 10% or more of its stock? (Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a)) Yes□ No□X Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities? No□X RELATED CASE, IF ANY: Date Terminated: Case Number: Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions: 1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? 2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? 3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? No□X 4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights case filed by the same individual? No□X CIVIL: (Place ✓ in ONE CATEGORY ONLY) A. Federal Question Cases: B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases: 1. □ Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts 1. □ Insurance Contract and Other Contracts 2. D FELA □ Airplane Personal Injury 3. D Jones Act-Personal Injury 3.

Assault, Defamation 4. □ Antitrust 4. ☐ Marine Personal Injury 5. D Motor Vehicle Personal Injury 5. / Patent 6. □ Other Personal Injury (Please specify) abor-Management Relations . 🖎 Civil Rights 7. Products Liability 8. Products Liability - Asbestos □/ Habeas Corpus 9. □ All other Diversity Cases Securities Act(s) Cases 10. □ Social Security Review Cases (Please specify) 11. □ All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify) ADEA ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION (Check Appropriate Category) Brian J. Foley , counsel of record do hereby certify: X Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs; X Relief other than monetary damages is sought Brian J. Foley PA Bar No. 68806 DATE: 10/03/2017 NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.

I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now nending or within one year previously terminated action in this court except as noted above.

DATE: 10/03/2107

Attorney-at-Law



IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Gregory DiSabatino	:	: CIVIL ACTION			
V. Southern Glazer's ' and Southern Glaz	Wine and Spirits LLC er's Wine and Spirits of	17 4416 NO.			
In accordance with the Civplaintiff shall complete a C filing the complaint and ser side of this form.) In the designation, that defendant the plaintiff and all other pato which that defendant bel	vil Justice Expense and Delay Rease Management Track Designative a copy on all defendants. (See event that a defendant does not shall, with its first appearance, s	eduction Plan of this court, counsel for tion Form in all civil cases at the time of § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse agree with the plaintiff regarding said submit to the clerk of court and serve on a Designation Form specifying the track d.			
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 through § 2255.					
(b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits. ()					
(c) Arbitration - Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2. ()					
(d) Asbestos – Cases involvence exposure to asbestos.	ving claims for personal injury of	r property damage from			
commonly referred to a	Cases that do not fall into tracks s complex and that need special side of this form for a detailed ex	or intense management by			
(f) Standard Management -	- Cases that do not fall into any o	one of the other tracks. (X)			
October 3, 2017	Brian J. Foley	Gregory DiSabatino			
Date 267-930-4425	Attorney-at-law 267-930-4427	Attorney for Brian@BrianJFoleyLaw.com			
Telephone	FAX Number	E-Mail Address			

(Civ. 660) 10/02

BRIAN J. FO



BY: BRIAN J. FOLEY, ESQ. (PA ID No. 68806)

6701 Germantown Avenue, Suite 200

Philadelphia, PA 19119

(267) 930-4425

Attorney for Plaintiff Gregory DiSabatino

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

GREGORY DISABATINO

4331 Concord Road

Aston, PA 19014

Plaintiff

v.

SOUTHERN GLAZER'S WINE AND SPIRITS

LLC

1600 N.W. 163rd Street Miami, FL 33169-5641

and

SOUTHERN GLAZER'S WINE AND SPIRITS

OF PENNSYLVANIA LLC

460 American Ave.

P.O. Box 60384

King of Prussia, PA 19406-1405,

Defendants.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

CIVIL ACTION NO.

17 4413

COMPLAINT

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

1. This is an action for an award of damages, liquidated damages, attorneys' fees and other relief on behalf of Plaintiff Gregory DiSabatino, a former employee of Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits LLC and Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits of Pennsylvania LLC. Mr. DiSabatino has been harmed by Defendants' age discrimination. This action arises under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. § 621, et seq., and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, 43 P.S. § 951, et seq.

JURISDICTIONAL STATEMENT

- 2. This Court has original jurisdiction over all civil actions arising under the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1343, and 1391. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over any Pennsylvania state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 3. All conditions precedent to the institution of this suit have been fulfilled. Plaintiff filed a charge with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) on or around June 1, 2017 (Charge No. 530-2017-02778), which was dual filed with the Pennsylvania Human Resources Commission (PHRC). On July 6, 2017, the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission issued and mailed a Notice of Right to Sue. This action has been filed within 90 days of receipt of this Notice.

VENUE

4. This action properly lies in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), because the claims arose in this judicial district and Defendants conduct business in this judicial district.

PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff, Gregory DiSabatino (hereinafter "Mr. DiSabatino"), is an adult male citizen and resident of Aston, Pennsylvania.
- 6. Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits LLC ("Southern Glazer's") is a limited liability corporation with a mailing address of 1600 N.W. 163rd Street, Miami, Florida, 33169, and 14911 Quorum Drive, Ste. 150, Dallas, Texas, 75254. Southern Glazer's distributes alcoholic beverages throughout the United States and transacts or has transacted business in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, specifically through Southern Glazer's PA and providing Southern Glazer's PA with payroll and other managerial functions.
- 7. Defendant Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits of Pennsylvania LLC ("Southern Glazer's PA") is a limited liability corporation with a main office mailing address of 460 American Ave, PO Box 60384, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, 19406-1405. Southern Glazer's PA distributes wine and spirits beverages in Pennsylvania.

- 8. At all relevant times, employees of Defendants Southern Glazer's and Southern Glazer's PA acted as agents and servants for Defendants.
- 9. At all relevant times employees of Defendants were acting within the scope of their authority and in the course of employment under the direct control of Defendants.
- 10. At all relevant times Defendant Southern Glazer's is and has been an employer employing more than 20 employees.
- 11. At all relevant times Defendant Southern Glazer's PA is and has been an employer employing more than 20 employees.
- 12. At all relevant times, Defendants Southern Glazer's and Southern Glazer's PA are and have been employers as defined under the Age Discrimination in Employment Act and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, and are accordingly subject to the provisions of these laws.

FACTS

Mr. DiSabatino's Work History with Defendants

13. In June, 2012, Mr. DiSabatino, then 55 years old, was hired to work for Defendants, earning \$19.50 per hour. While in this position he received raises until he was earning \$23.26 per hour. In 2016, he earned about \$9,000 in overtime. Until the incident alleged by Defendants as the basis for his termination, he was never involved in any accidents or other incidents where damage to a truck or other property of

Defendants was caused. He drove a truck delivering wine and spirits to Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board stores and warehouses in the Philadelphia area exclusively. At all relevant times, he was qualified for this job.

Pretextual Termination

- 14. On Friday, November 11, 2016, Mr. DiSabatino and other drivers for Defendants participated in a "Pre Trip and Post Trip Inspection training" workshop in the morning before setting out on their routes.
- 15. At the end of the workshop, Mr. DiSabatino inspected the truck he was to drive that day. He noted on the Driver's Vehicle Inspection Report form that the passenger side cargo door was ajar.
- 16. That day, Mr. DiSabatino drove the truck and made his deliveries. To his knowledge, the truck was not in any collision or accident or otherwise damaged during his shift or afterward.
- 17. Mr. DiSabatino returned the truck later that day, during the evening. It was dark by then. Mike Murphy, a manager for Defendants, helped him unload the truck. Neither man observed any damage to the truck.
- 18. When Mr. DiSabatino next reported to work, Tuesday, November 15, 2016 (drivers drive Tuesdays through Fridays), he was told that the truck he had driven on Friday, November 15, 2016, had been damaged. The alleged damage was that the drivers' side corner cap of the cargo box of the truck had a hole in it about the

size of a softball, the rear corner cap of the cargo box was missing, and the cargo box was twisted.

- 19. Mr. DiSabatino responded he did not know of any such damage and said that to his knowledge, the truck was not in any collision or accident or otherwise damaged during his shift or afterward. He was shown photographs of the purported damage to at least one of the corner caps. The photographs were unmarked and undated and did not include any markings or any other identifying characteristics that could show they were photographs of the truck Mr. DiSabatino had driven the previous Friday. Mr. DiSabatino was told that this damage had already been repaired.
- 20. The purported twisted cargo box was not repaired. The purportedly damaged truck continued to be driven routinely and regularly in the usual course of business and, upon information and belief, was not repaired until sometime in January, 2017.
- 21. Defendants terminated Mr. DiSabatino on December 6, 2016, purporting that he was being terminated because he had knowingly failed to report an accident and/or damage to the truck he had driven on November 11, 2016. Mr. DiSabatino was 61 years old. At all times, Mr. DiSabatino has maintained that he did not know of any such damage and that to his knowledge the truck was not involved in any sort of collision when it was under his control on November 11, 2016.

- 22. This termination was pretextual. There was no reliable or credible evidence that Mr. DiSabatino had knowingly failed to report an accident or damage.
- 23. At least one other driver for Defendants who is substantially younger in age than Mr. DiSabatino has had numerous accidents, reported and unreported, causing damage to at least one of Defendants' trucks. This driver was not fired or, upon information and belief, otherwise disciplined for any of these accidents.
- 24. Upon information and belief, Mr. DiSabatino was replaced by an employee substantially younger than him.

Pattern and Practice

25. Defendants have a pattern and practice of age discrimination against its employees. Upon information and belief, they have terminated numerous employees who were over age 40 at the time, because of their age.

COUNT I

(AGE DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT ACT)

26. Plaintiff Gregory DiSabatino repeats and incorporates by reference the allegations of all previous paragraphs as fully as though the same were set forth at length herein.

- 27. Mr. DiSabatino is over forty years of age and an individual within the class protected by the ADEA.
- 28. In treating Mr. DiSabatino differently because of his age, disciplining him and terminating his employment because of his age, defendants violated the ADEA.
- 29. Defendants intentionally and willfully discriminated against Mr. DiSabatino because of his age.
- 30. Defendants' violations were intentional and willful under the circumstances and warrant the imposition of punitive damages.
- 31. As a direct and proximate result of defendants' violation of the ADEA, Mr. DiSabatino has sustained the injuries, damages, and losses set forth herein, including a loss of earnings, loss of future earning power, as well as back pay, front pay, the value of various employment benefits, and the interest due thereon, in excess of \$150,000, and has incurred attorneys' fees and costs.
- 32. Mr. DiSabatino is now suffering and will continue to suffer irreparable injury and monetary damages as a result of Defendants' discriminatory and unlawful acts unless and until the Court grants the relief requested herein.

COUNT II

(PENNSYLVANIA HUMAN RELATIONS ACT)

- 33. Plaintiff Gregory DiSabatino repeats and incorporates by reference the allegations of all previous paragraphs as fully as though the same were set forth at length herein.
- 34. Based on the foregoing, Defendants have engaged in unlawful employment practices in violation of the PHRA.
- 35. In treating Mr. DiSabatino differently because of his age, disciplining him and terminating his employment because of his age, Defendants violated the PHRA.
- 36. As a direct result of Defendants' aforesaid willful and unlawful actions as aforesaid, in violation of the PHRA, Gregory DiSabatino has suffered severe emotional and psychological distress, humiliation, embarrassment, loss of self-esteem and has sustained a loss of earnings, loss of future earning power, back pay, front pay, the value of various employment benefits, and the interest due thereon, in excess of \$150,000, and has incurred attorneys' fees and costs.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

- 37. Plaintiff Gregory DiSabatino repeats and incorporates by reference the allegations of all previous paragraphs as fully as though the same were set forth at length herein.
- 38. WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Gregory DiSabatino respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment in his favor and against the Defendants:

- a. Declaring that the acts and practices complained of herein are in violation of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act;
- b. Declaring that the acts and practices complained of herein are in violation of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act;
- c. Enjoining and restraining permanently the acts and practices complained of herein;
- d. Awarding compensatory damages to Plaintiff to make Plaintiff whole for all past and future lost earnings, benefits and earnings capacity which Plaintiff has suffered and will continue to suffer as a result of Defendants' conduct;
- e. Awarding compensatory damages to Plaintiff for past and future emotional upset, mental anguish, humiliation, loss of life's pleasures and pain and suffering;
- f. Awarding liquidated damages to Plaintiff;
- g. Awarding punitive damages to Plaintiff;
- h. Awarding attorneys' fees and costs; and
- i. Such other relief as is deemed just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff Gregory DiSabatino hereby demands trial by jury as to all issues so triable.

BRIAN J. FOLEY, ATTORNEY AT LAW

BRIAN J. FOLEY, ESQUIRE

Attorney for Plaintiff

Date: October 3, 2017